Manassas National Battlefield Park

War For Freedom: African American Experiences in the Era of the Civil War



Resource #5: James Robinson Written Claim

Filed with Southern Claims Commission

CLAIM OF

James Robinson of Prince William County VA

\$2080.00

for Supplies Taken By Army of Virginia

"Army of the Potomac"

August 28th, 29th, & 30th 1862

Downman & Weaver

Attorneys, Washington, D.C.

UNITED STATES CLAIMS COMMISSION

Petition of James Robinson of the Township of Manassas County of Prince William State of VA

To the Honorable Commissioners of Claims under the act of March 3, 1871:

The claimant herein respectfully shows and avers, upon his knowledge that he now resides at his own farm in the County of Prince William, and State of Virginia; that, at the time the claim hereinafter set forth accrued, he resided at the same farm in the County of Prince William, and State of Virginia, and that he was the original owner of said claim, and that he is now owner thereof, and became such owner upon the following considerations, to wit:

He was and is the sole and original owner of all the property herein after specified

That heretofore, on or bout the 28th, 29th, & 30th day of August, A.D. 1862, a portion of the united States Army, known as the Army of the Virginia, as he was informed and believes, engaged in battle near and at the residence and farm of said James Robinson, situated on Warrenton Turnpike (???) and in the County of Prince William. In the state aforesaid, and that then and there the following described goods,

Resource #5: James Robinson Written Claim (cont'd)

chattels, and property of the said James Robinson was taken by the officers and men of said Army and the quantity, quality, and value of the said property thus taken or furnished was as follows, to wit:

Twenty five tons good hay @ 20	500.00
Sixty bushels wheat @ 2.00	120.00
Twenty bushels corn @ 1.00	20.00
Two horses \$224 Seven hogs 125	350.00
Three barrels fish \$25=800 lb Bacon \$100	125.00
Two fat cattle 100 + 1 acre in potatoes \$40	140.00
Twelve acres corn in Field 60 Bls	300.00
Groceries and Provisions in House	75.00
Beds and other Furniture in ditto	250.00
Garden \$50.00 Use of House as Hospital and services of self and family as nurses	200.00
	¢2000 00

\$2080.00

And he respectfully shows that said property was taken by offenses and men of said Army (to him unknown) who were then to him and others known to be in the military service of the United States, and not stationed at any point (?) but in actual Battle. And that Maj. Genl. Pope was then in command of the United States forces in the district in which said property was taken, and the said property was taken for the use of the following military organizations, to wit:

The Army of Virginia

And that no voucher, or receipt, or writing, was given for the same; and that none could be obtained.

[&]quot;The Army of the Potomac" (CROSSED OUT)

Resource #5: James Robinson Written Claim (cont'd)

And the claimant respectfully shows that all said property was taken and appropriated by the said troops of the United States Army, at the time and place aforesaid; and that said property was then and there of the value carried out as to each item of the same herein, and that no compensation has ever been made therefore.

That this claim has not been presented before to and Department of the Government.

And the claimant avers, of his own knowledge, that he is a citizen of the United States, and has been since A.D. 1800; and that he has always remained a loyal adherent to the cause and Government of the United States during the war, and at all times before, at the time of, and since the taking or furnishing of the property for which he now makes the claim.

Wherefore the claimant asks that there shall be allowed and paid him by the United States the sum of Two Thousand and Eighty dollars.

(...) George Monroe James Robinson (X) his mark

Post Office address of Claimant:

Manassas Prince William Co Virginia

Post Office address of claimant's counsel:

Josisah Loomis Centreville Fairfax Co. Va

STATE OF Virginia }

County of Prince William } ss: See note*

James Robinson, being duly sworn, deposes and says, that he is the petitioner named in the foregoing petition, and who signed the same; that the matters therein stated are true of deponent's own knowledge, except as to those matters which are stated on information and belief, and, as to those matters, he believes them to be true.

Resource #5: James Robinson Written Claim (cont'd)

And deponent further says that he did not voluntarily serve in the Confederate Army or Navy, either as an officer, soldier, or in any other capacity, at any time during the late rebellion; that he never voluntarily furnished any stores, supplies, or other material aid, to said Confederate Army or Navy, or to the Confederate Government, or to any officer, department, or adherent of the same, in support thereof; and that he never voluntarily accepted or exercised the functions of any office whatsoever under or yielded voluntary support to the said Confederate Government.

(...) George Monroe James Robinson (X) his mark

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 11th day of April, A.D. 1871

A. H. Compton (JP or LP??)

Name and residences of witnesses to prove loyalty:

- George F. Carter Manassas, Prince William Co., Virginia

- Cranford Cushing Gainesville, Prince William Co., Virginia

- George Harris Centreville, Fairfax Co., Va

Name and residence of witnesses to prove the other facts alleged in petition:

- George F. Carter Manassas, Prince William Co., Virginia

- Anthony Harris Centreville, Fairfax Co., Va

- Cranford Cushing Gainesville, Prince William Co., Va

^{*}This oath is required to be written out by the rules of the Commission and should be administered by a Clerk of a Court of Record, who should attach his seal; or if administered by any other officer, the official character of such officer should be certified to by the clerk under the seal of the court.

Resource #5: James Robinson Written Claim (cont'd)

The facts required must be stated at the appropriate place in this blank, with time and place, clearly, concisely, fully as to all material circumstances, and not argumentatively, and with as much PARTICULARITY AND EXACTNESS as the claimant's knowledge or means of information will enable him to do, the kind, quality, and value of the stores or supplies taken or furnished, for which payment is claimed, with the name or names of the person or persons taking the property, and whether they were officers or soldiers of the United States, and to what company or regiment the belonged, and, if officers, their rank, and where they were then stationed, and the name of the officer in command of the United States forces in the district in which the property was taken, to what place or station the property was removed, and for what use of what persons, company, regiment, or military organization in the service of the United States it was taken. As to the facts within his own knowledge the claimant must say he "avers them of his own knowledge:" and as to facts stated on information and belief, that he states them upon information and belief.